

STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

136 State Capitol
Denver, Colorado 80203-1792
Phone (303) 866-2471



Bill Owens
Governor

April 28, 2006

White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA)
Emily Gross, Assistant Outreach Coordinator
4350 East-West Highway, Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Ms. Gross:

I have reviewed the fifty resolutions that were developed by the Policy Committee from the White House Conference on Aging. This letter is in response to your request to Governors to identify those resolutions considered as priorities for their constituencies.

Colorado held the Governor's White House Conference on Aging in June of 2005 and identified six major priorities. The top ten Resolutions that came out of the December 2005 White House Conference on Aging correspond very closely with the recommendations made by Colorado's delegation. The Colorado delegation has continued to meet in order to advance and prioritize these important issues. I am enclosing a list of the priorities developed by Colorado's delegation along with examples of ongoing efforts and their ideas for seeing them come to fruition. I commend the hard work and dedication of the Colorado delegation to the White House Conference on Aging.

As our nation's baby boomers continue to age, it is crucial that we continue to address the impact this population will have on social, health and economic policies. As I have stated before, I know that our challenges are great, but our possibilities are even greater.

As Governor, I am especially supportive of the resolutions that will ensure and protect the rights of Colorado's older citizens to age with independence and dignity. I believe several resolutions play an important role in attaining this goal. The following is a partial list of these crucial resolutions:

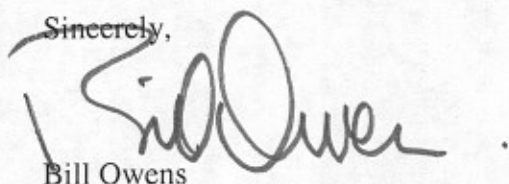
- Resolution 5- Foster innovations in financing long-term care services to increase options available to consumers.
- Resolution 29- Promote enrollment of seniors into the Medicare prescription drug plan.
- Resolution 34- Improve the health and quality of life of older Americans through disease management and chronic care coordination.

- Resolution 37- Prevent disease and promote healthier lifestyles through education providers and consumers on consumer healthcare.
- Resolution 42- Promote innovative models on non-institutional long-term care.
- Resolution 47- Encourage appropriate sharing of healthcare information across multiple management systems.
- Resolution 50- Strengthen and improve the Medicaid program for seniors.
- Resolution 53- Improve access to care for older Americans living in rural areas.
- Resolution 62- Develop incentives to encourage the expansion of appropriate use of health information technology.

I believe the adoption of resolutions such as these that revolve around greater involvement, knowledge and choice will help foster an environment in which seniors can thrive.

I look forward to reviewing the final report from the 2005 White House Conference on Aging later this year and continuing to work with Colorado's delegation on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bill Owens", with a large, stylized initial "B" and "O".

Bill Owens